

Brother D. J. Bole reports three confessions at their watch meeting on New Year's eve. Two of them, Dr. Kennedy and his wife, were for a long time members of the Baptist Church.

We heartily recommend the plan adopted by Brother Koontz in holding a communion service at the close of a revival meeting, especially when so many new members are added to the church.

Brother Louis S. Bauman reports a very successful meeting held at Auburn, Ill., resulting in fifteen confessions, with one accession at Cornell, making sixteen in all. This is certainly good work.

We appreciate these words from brother D. R. Stutsman, Bristol, Ind.: "Your paper is worthy of all patronage. I can not see how brethren and sisters can do without the paper. It is worth more than five times the present cost. May God bless all who are interested in the good work."

In renewing his subscription to the paper Brother Walter of Hopewell, Pa., says: "I think every family in the Brethren Church should take the EVANGELIST. I think there is something very materially wrong when a church member cannot pay \$1.00 a year for the church paper, especially so when he spends from five to ten times as much for tobacco and sometimes something for liquor in addition to the tobacco."

On last Sabbath morning baptism was administered in the College Chapel by Brother Garber. The brother baptized came from the northern part of Michigan. His father was a minister in the German Baptist Church many years ago, but is not now living. Brother Weaver, the man baptized, was formerly an active member of the Baptist Church, but not being satisfied he made this long journey that he might obey the whole Gospel.

Brother D. J. Bole of Pittsburg, Pa., sent us, last week, a check for \$30.00 the price of thirty EVANGELISTS. More than a year ago Brother Bole told us that if the price of the paper were reduced to one dollar cash he would double the list in his congregation. He has kept his promise as he always does and we now send thirty papers to Pittsburg where formerly we sent fourteen, two more than double the number. This shows what can be done when the proper effort is made.

Brother Isaac Leedy of Ankenytown, Ohio, gave the office a pleasant call last Saturday. He renewed his subscription to the paper, bought a quarterly, an Annual and a Parable of Horrors. He says their Sunday-school died and was buried, but he wants to keep up the study of the lessons. We hope the school has only gone into winter quarters and will at least watch the "Ground Hog's Shadow," or if really buried will be resurrected in the early spring. Call again brother, always welcome at this office.

Brother James A. Ridenour, Anderson, Ind., renews his subscription to the paper and sends besides five new subscribers, cash with order. His was the only paper sent to Anderson, now there are six. The same work could be done at many other places with the same effort. Brother Ridenour in his letter says: "We have no organization in this city, but we have some 12 or 15 members living here. I preach for them occasionally at their own private houses. May organize in the future. I thought it would be good for them to read the paper, so with a little effort I got a few names. I have now so arranged my affairs that I am ready to take work either as an Evangelist or pastor. Churches needing help in either line can address me at Anderson, Ind."

## Notes and Comments.

**Another Victory.** Slowly but surely the women are gaining ground. The last victory was won in the state of Idaho concerning which the *Religious Telescope* says:

Woman suffrage has triumphed in this young State. The proposition to so amend the constitution as to grant it was voted on at the last election, and, failing to receive a majority of all the votes cast, it was denied by some that the measure had carried. The question was submitted to the Supreme Court of the State, and it has very wisely and in harmony with the Supreme courts of other States decided that *when any proposed amendment to the constitution receives a majority of the votes cast for such proposition, even if it is not a majority of all the votes cast at that election, said amendment is carried.* The Idaho woman suffrage amendment received six thousand more votes in its favor than were cast against it, tho not a majority of all the votes at that same election—many of the electors failing or refusing to vote on the question at all. There are now four States that grant full suffrage to women. Let the good work go on; and it will, for "revolutions never go backward." When the women have full suffrage in all the States then the rum traffic will be destroyed, *but not before.*

**Recognized Christ.** The last Thanksgiving Proclamation by President Cleveland has been both commended and condemned. The recognition of Christ in the proclamation has met the hearty approval of some and the condemnation of others. The President made use of these words: "And let us, thro the meditation of Him who has taught us how to pray, implore the forgiveness of our sins and a continuation of heavenly favor." It will be observed that the name of Christ is not mentioned in these words but the phrase, "meditation through Him," is a direct reference to Christ, and has been denounced as unprecedented and invidious. President Cleveland however is not the only President who has recognized Christ in his proclamation. The *Christian Intelligencer* says:

The very first proclamation calling for national Thanksgiving, issued by Congress under date of Nov. 1, 1777, contained the expression, "That it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance." This example was followed in proclamations by Congress in 1778, 1779, and 1780. President John Adams, who appointed a day of fasting in 1798, made similar reference to Christ, and in 1863 President Lincoln appointed a day of national prayer and humiliation in terms which recognized the mediation of Christ.

**Is It Progress?** Dr J. M. Buckley, Editor of the *Christian Advocate*, publishes in his paper the following from a private letter written by one of the youngest professors in a great university:

At the times of playing, the saloons and eating houses were highly decorated, and all places where they gather in money. The city paper was printed in red ink. The president, regents, and State officials were in attendance. A crowd of four thousand people stood in a freezing cold wind all the afternoon. Several thousand dollars were bet. Mass meetings of students have been held. In fact, we have all the evidence of social insanity. The mind of society becomes even monomaniac. Church work, literary work, regular

studies, cannot get a moment's consideration when a football game is approaching or has just passed. In fact, the town is foo ball mad.

Football is not a game that belongs to the civilization of the nineteenth century. In common with "prize fighting" it should be forbidden by law. It belongs to an age when physical development was the highest aim and ambition of man. Many centuries ago we passed through this state of civilization, if civilization it may be called. Football is as brutish as the "Prize Fight," and should have no place in modern civilization. It is a relic of barbarism.

**Work Six Days.** The Bible teaches that man should work six days out of seven and rest one day in seven. It seems however that some people have reversed this order and work one day in seven and rest six. The man who does not work six days in a week when he has work to do, cannot properly keep the day of rest. It is as much of a command to work six days as it is to keep the Sabbath holy. We never could see any good sense in having from twelve to fifteen holidays in a year. The trouble is there are too many holidays and not enough holy days. Why should the first day of the year be a holiday? Would it not be better to begin the new year with a good day's work? Why not? To make the first day of the year a holiday gives thousands of people an opportunity to start the year with a "drunk." This should not be so.

**A Weight or a Wing.** The late Dr. Deems used to say that every member added to the church will be either a weight or a wing to the pastor. By which he meant that every member of the church is either a help or a hindrance to the pastor. What is your position in the church, brother, sister? Do you make work easier for your pastor or are you a drag to him? In what way are you a help to him? Has the working force of the church been increased since you have become a member? If you are not a help to the cause which you profess to love then you are a hindrance to it. Which is it?

**If Not Better Then Worse.** In making its announcement for 1897 the Editor of the *Sunday School Times* says: "Failure to advance in a world of progress means falling behind. If the *Sunday School Times* is not better during 1897 than it was during 1896, it is not as good." Herein is a little sermon. What is true of the *Sunday School Times* is true of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST and of every other paper. The world is getting better. Our opportunities are increasing and privileges are multiplying. Our surroundings are becoming more favorable. That which is as good during the year 1897 as it was during the year 1896 is, comparatively speaking, not as good. That which is like it was last year is going backward. Why, you ask? Because it has stood still while the world has moved forward. Apply this principle to us as individuals. Are you advancing in the divine life? Then you are going backward. There is no such thing as standing still in the divine life. When a tree ceases to grow it begins to decay. Let us think on these things at the beginning of this new year. We should be able to do more work this year than we did last